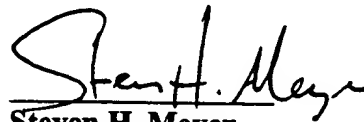


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Claims 106-135 are pending in the present application as preliminarily amended. Claims 1-105 have been canceled and claims 106-135 have been added. The title has been canceled and replaced with a new title corresponding to claims 106-135, the specification has been amended to include a new "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" section, and the abstract has been canceled and replaced with a new abstract corresponding to claims 106-135. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the Preliminary Amendment.

Applicants respectfully solicit early examination of the above-identified application, and a Notice of Allowability in due course.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven H. Meyer

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Date: January 13, 2000

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